

Mouth of The River

Issue 2

Mouth of the River is a publication of the ORHS Journalism Class

OYSTER RIVER
HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY
DURHAM, N.H. 03824

December 16, 1993

FEARS OF THEFT A GROWING CONCERN

Julie Wourgiotis

There is a widespread belief among students this year that ORHS is no longer a place that you can come to without the worry of theft.

In a small survey of nineteen students asking if they've had anything stolen and if so, from where, approximately forty-two percent reported that they had, in fact, had something stolen. The missing items ranged from TI-81 calculators to money from the junior class. Of those nineteen people, approximately thirty-one percent said the items stolen disappeared from their lockers. Recently, a TI-81 calculator from ORHS was discovered a pawn shop in Rochester.

According to Ms. Brown, by leaving valuables or large sums of money in at home, there isn't the temptation to take it and if you must bring it in, "...bring it to someone in the office who is able to lock it up or bring a small backpack and carry it with you." She added that "People need to learn that they cannot keep valuable things in their lockers. We're not trying to blame the victims but they're good targets."

Abby Smith, junior class president, is angered and frustrated by the three incidents of theft totalling approximately one hundred dollars from the junior class. "I think that this is unbelievable. We are a school, we are a community. To be stealing from each other is low, really low, and is below the level of maturity one should display in high school." She added, "It's their prom and they're stealing from themselves. We're working really hard to have an affordable and fabulous prom and these setbacks are really frustrating. Student council president Amanda McAuley agrees by saying "...it's really pathetic that people in this school don't respect each other's property. I don't like the atmosphere of a school with locks on all of the lockers but it's gotten to the point where I'm nervous to leave my jacket unlocked."

Earlier this year, a Macintosh hard drive was stolen from the school that was on loan from Liberty Mutual. Police investigated and finger printed but there are still no leads. Ms. Brown looks at this

(Theft continued, page 8)



Voters wait in line to cast their ballots at O.R.

OR VOTERS REJECT RECONSTRUCTION BOND

by Kristy Schreiter

On Monday, December 13, registered voters rejected two reconstruction bonds once again. Monday night's vote was 61.22% majority on the first article, and 60.63% majority on the second.

Like this vote, previous failure to pass this bond lies on the fact that a 2/3 majority vote was needed. Although 61% is the majority, it does not cover the 2/3 requirement.

With the third failure of this bond, there will be no construction done to the middle school, Moharemit, or Mast Way. Instead, modular trailers (each containing two classrooms) will be put in place at the three schools; starting in the fall of 1994.

The trailers have no water or sewer facilities, but do require electricity, heat, air conditioning, and an alarm system.

Unlike the construction proposal, the modular trailers have no definite promise of state financial aid. With no construction, the modulators will indeed be more room, but the students will still be beyond the capacity of the school.

Concerned voters were open and honest, such as Peter Johnson, from Durham. "I see many more elderly people here than at any other meeting. I wonder what that indicates; whether they are concerned with the possibility of a tax increase, or the children's education."

Starting promptly at 7:00, the meeting progressed through a presentation by David Penniman, and following that was discussion. Only three people had spoken, when at 7:55 Peter McDonald of Lee motioned to close the discussion and vote; which was seconded by another Lee resident. The motion was passed and the voters rushed to the poles.

(Bond Issue cont. pg. 9)

SHAKESPEARE STILL DRAWS 'EM



Harassment Policy Goes to Board

by Maggie Jentes and Kristy Schreiter

The co-op school district has devised a sexual harassment policy code. Originally the policy was suppose to be voted on the first of December, but due to complications, the vote was laid over until the fifteenth.

Sexual harassment means unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other inappropriate verbal, written or physical conduct of a sexual nature. These usually occur in the following situations: threatening the rights of employment, threatening the rights to an education, and a situation of dominance or control.

The policy defines sexual harassment by "its impact on the victim, not by the intent of the harasser." The school board believes that with this policy that there will be many changes in the hallways and classrooms of our school. This excerpt of the policy is the one that most directly effects the

(Harassment cont. pg. 8)

SMOKING SECTION: CAMEL LIGHTS FOR BREAKFAST

by Scott Blasik

It's 7:25 on a Monday morning. The sun is just barely peeking over the horizon, and kids are slowly filtering into the front odor of ORHS. Just across Coe Drive kids are huddled together getting their morning fix of tobacco. Clouds of smoke billow out from behind the rows of cars and float off into the morning sun.

As the first bell rings, the kids pick up the pace, not even taking time to talk to their friends. They suck on their butts knowing it could be their last until 2:31. Second bell rings and they all savor their final drag. Those that are a little more daring will take their chances in the bathroom later on in the day to satisfy their need for nicotine.

This is what it's like outside ORHS every morning before school; kids having Camel Lights for breakfast. It seems that smoking has become increasingly more popular among the students at Oyster River in recent years. It's illegal for kids under 18 to buy cigarettes, but they get them anyway. It's illegal to smoke in school, but everyone knows it still goes on, and there's nothing the teacher's can do about it, much to their dismay.

Second period has ended, and a few tobacco junkies file into the upstairs boy's bathroom. A nervous freshman is forced to "watch". His life is threatened numerous times in the event that one of the illegal smokers gets caught. He hurriedly takes a seat on the heater and stares intently at the door. A few more kids stagger through the door and mutter, "it's cool." There are now seven people smoking and a thick gray cloud has settled on the ceiling. Late bell rings, and the students groan as

they toss their butts into the urinals. "We never have enough time," one surly student says, as he jogs to class with the stench of smoke lingering not too far behind.

Smoking sections used to exist at ORHS up until the time Ms. Brown became principle. They were taken out due to state law and schoolboard policy. Smoking sections for teacher's existed up until years ago. The student smoking section used to be right outside the exit next to the music room. The boy's bathroom is a smoking section of sorts nowadays, filled with students who genuinely can not survive the day without a cigarette. A smoking section should be implemented for people like this, and also, if it's put in the right place, second hand smoke will not be a problem.

The bell rings signaling the end of fifth period. A band of familiar faces strolls into the bathroom, four of them light up and decide to watch as they smoke. They each take turns taking drags, and peeking around the stall, checking for anyone who fits into the "uncool" category. They all enjoy a few drags and then in walks Mr. Shapiro "Uncool" one of them cries. They all toss their butts into the urinal and pretend to use it for its designated purpose. They all file out of the bathroom having avoided another close call. They will all, more than likely, be back next period to risk it again.

Senior Marni Thibault said, "Oyster River should follow the example of Souhegan High School," which has a smoking section out in its courtyard.

"...his life threatened if one of the illegal smokers gets caught."

"There are tables and chairs so students can relax and enjoy a cigarette without having to worry about teachers coming in and busting them." "You don't have to worry about the penalty either, twenty hours of community service, IF, you ever happen to get caught."

A smoking section at Oyster River would mean a lot less hassle for both teachers and students. The teachers would not have to worry about kids smoking in the bathroom, and also would not have to waste their time checking the bathrooms. Freshman Chris Grassi said, "students would not have to worry about teachers coming in all the time; this in turn would probably relieve a lot of tension in the student-teacher relationship."

If not having a smoking section is a health issue, the administration should know that kids are going to smoke in the bathrooms--no matter what. Since the bathroom is such an enclosed area, (with two sets of windows that are bolted shut) the second-hand smoke in there is much more harmful than it would ever would be in a properly placed outdoor smoking section.

2:31 finally rolls around. A horde of students make their way across Coe Drive to enjoy a cigarette without having to worry about being busted, right?

Wrong! In recent weeks, Durham's finest have been busting some kids for under-age smoking. Although students usually walk away with a slap on the wrist, it's a never-ending battle for the teenage smoker. They have to sneak around to enjoy a cigarette, just because smoking is no longer a socially accepted practice. It seems the only way to resolve this is to install a smoking section at ORHS; this will save a lot of effort and unnecessary energy on the teacher's part.

Community Service:

FOR SOME IT'S TAKING AND NOT GIVING

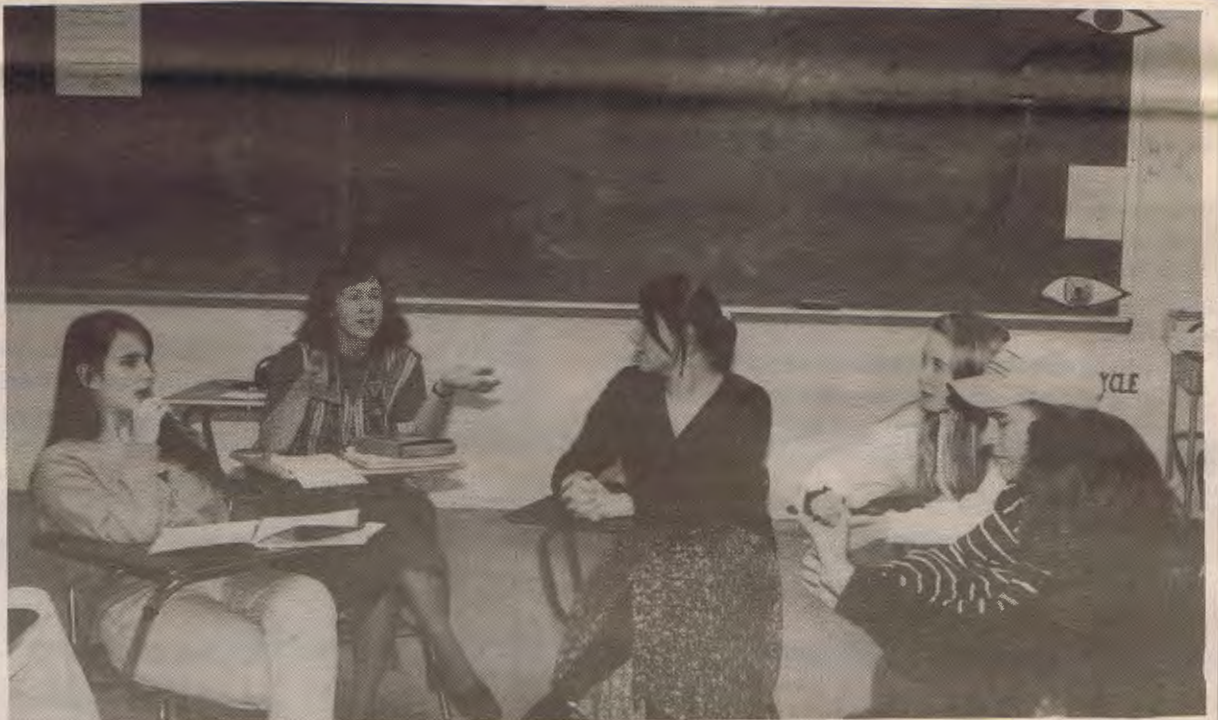
by Chantal Grady

Is Community Service to benefit the community or is it a way to improve your college application? That is a major question surrounding why Oyster River students are participating in the Community Service program.

The program consists of ten different activities: a peer tutor, the Big Buddy program, Soup Kitchen, Hospice, The Community Connection, Explorer Posts, Friend to the Elderly, A Safe Place, Coheco Valley Humane Society, and the Special Olympics. Each of these programs are coordinated by either Ms. Williams, Jenna Sunderland, Lauren Guillet, Marybeth Nazzaro, Amy Swift, Layli Milden, Dawn Igoe, or Katie Higgins.

Out of thirty polled students, twenty agreed that their involvement was because of the impact it makes on a college application. "Colleges are not the only reason why some kids may choose to do so. The reason that I am involving myself is because it is necessary for my CCD [Catholic confirmation] class," commented freshman Greg Friel.

The other ten agreed that they would do it entirely for the benefit of their community. "I participated in a Soup Kitchen over Thanksgiving break with my family. At first I thought that a couple hours wouldn't make much of a difference. After seeing the happy faces it brought, I'll have to say I'm going to become more active in my community," said Shelly Grimly. "Even if a majority of kids thinks of this service as a path to a better application, they are still putting the hours in for their community. I'll have to assume that a great deal of these students who involve themselves get a little bit out of it, which could lead to more service. Why not kill two birds with one stone; a better application and a cleaner consious," said junior Meredith Armitage.



Members of Student Council discuss major reorganization.

Dawn Igoe, who organizes the Friend to the Elderly program and the Coheco Valley Humane Society, said, "I did Soup Kitchen once last year and I really felt good about myself. That was one of the reasons why I decided to help organize the programs." Layli Milden, organizer of the Soup Kitchen and A Safe Place, said, "My aunt works in a shelter and I really admire her work. It was time that I help in my own way, that's why I decided on helping with A Safe Place. As for the Soup Kitchen I think that it really helps those less fortunate."

Ms. Williams, the head coordinator commented, "This year there may be a slight difference in the numbers of students involved, but that is because we are better about sorting the people who would give a significant amount of time, compared to those who don't."

"Whether you get involved for the impact of a college application or your own personal reasons, you're still helping your community. The only difference is one case you are putting in a piece of your heart and the other you're taking a piece of theirs and writing it on paper," said junior Kim Goodman.



GREAT BAGELS & MORE

- ★ GREAT SANDWICHES
- ★ HOMEMADE SOUPS
- ★ QUICHE
- ★ DESSERTS

NEW ITEM:

FRESH BAKED MUFFINS

Visit our cart in front of the Library, Monday thru Friday, 9am-1pm (weather permitting)

STEAMY NIGHTS AT THE GATEWAY

by Ryan Bellabona

Where can you find more Oyster River students on a weekend night than you can find at Store 24? Believe it or not, the answer is the Gateway Restaurant.

Does this mean the Gateway is the new hangout for local teens to enjoy a fun filled weekend after a grueling five days of intense school work? Unfortunately, that's not the case. Then what is the big attraction? JOBS! These hard working students are earning a living, or at least earning some gas money. I know because I am one of those students, and whether we are working over a steamy sink full of dishes or in front of a hot grill, we are grateful to have the opportunity to have part time jobs. The Gateway Family Restaurant has been hiring Oyster River students almost since its opening.

Junior Andrew Gault has been working at Gateway since his freshman year. Gault may be a student by day, but if you happen to order one of Gateway's juicy steaks, chances are it was specially prepared by "Chef Gault." Two of Gault's older brothers also worked at the restaurant when they were students at

ORHS. "It's kind of tradition in the Gault family," he commented.

If you happen to be driving by the restaurant on a Saturday night, you may spot junior Aaron Tyler up on the ladder posting the nightly specials on the large Gateway sign- "Prime Rib.....\$7.95." Tyler likes the flexible schedule, "It doesn't interfere with the soccer practice," he says.

Jay Belmore, who buses tables, says it's hard work but the time goes by pretty fast because you're always so busy. "There was one weekend when the foliage was at its peak that we had so many out-of-state customers," Belmore said. "But, since I get a percentage of all the tips that the waitresses make, I like when it's busy because I make more money."

I have been working at Gateway for about three months now, washing dishes, and sometimes doing some "prep" work-that's restaurant talk for making salads, toast, coleslaw, etc. For me, Sunday mornings seem busiest because so many people come in for

"Nothing is scarier than a busy waitress holding a steak knife."

breakfast after church. You have to be fast because the waitresses don't like to be out of silverware, and nothing is scarier than a busy waitress holding a steak knife!

Picture this: It's Saturday night. The middle of the dinner rush. The place is mobbed. The dishwasher breaks down with piles of dirty dishes stacked beside it, staring me in the face. I mumble a silent prayer to myself-Please let it get fixed so I won't have to wash all those dishes by hand. Suddenly, a crash; poor Jay, dropped another tray! He's getting better at it, though. His face doesn't get as red as it used to. Finally, the familiar hum of the dishwasher starts up. Better get to work. We're running low on silverware.

Dave Diller and Jamie Mercier, both juniors, also work at Gateway, as does sophomore Corey Stacey.

Everyone agrees that it's pretty hard working in a busy restaurant like the Gateway, but it helps when you see some familiar faces working beside you, Knowing that they're not out having a good time either.

So if you're in the mood for some good food and you happen to be circling the Lee Traffic Circle, drop by the Gateway and have a great meal. But, for my sake, try not to dirty any dishes!

ADVISORY COUNCIL READY TO LEAD SCHOOL REFORM

by Aaron Major

The members of the Advisory Council have been elected and progress is ready to begin on school reform. Along with the student representatives, teachers Mrs. Rous, Mr. Perry, Mr. Gasowski, Ms. Lauten, Mrs. Dodge, and Mrs. Parsons have set goals to make progress forward.

Before much can begin, organization must happen within the group. First, the members in the group will state their goals, and be brought up to date on the accomplishments of the "Monday Group", according to council member Mrs. Rous. Next, they will prioritize their goals and hire a professional to "facilitate the decision making process," she said. Subcommittees will also be formed to deal with the different aspects and goals that need to be accomplished.

But what kind of changes can we expect? Mrs.

Rous thinks that we will see changes in schedule, courses, and ways to get students involved in school politics. One long-term goal will be to find "ways to get students to engage in all aspects in growth in learning." She would also like to see the community and school being connected in some way. "We need to make a lot of changes in our school day and our courses," says school principal Ann Draper Brown.

Although community members have been asked to take part in the Advisory Council, they have yet to be put in the council. Mrs. Rous did say that she had gotten calls from a few interested people. Even though the community response has been small, the response received was generally positive and supportive of school reform, says Mrs. Brown.

Just how far do we have to go to reach the goals set by the Advisory Council and the Vision Statement? A recent, random survey was sent out to 55 students across the school. On the survey

were seven quotations taken out of the Vision Statement. Students were asked to rate these seven quotes compared to present day ORHS. The rating was on the scale of 1-5 (1 being far from the goals, 5 being close to the goals) and addressed the topics of school environment, teacher-student relationships, and the school curriculum.

Of the responses received, an average of a 2.8 was given to all of the seven quotes combined.

"The results of the survey just show that there is a lot of room for reform, and we have our work cut out for us," said new council member Amanda McAuley.

"I think that it's kind of funny that all of the adults are getting together to decide our future," says sophomore Sean Moriarty. "Well I think that we need to be educated more on this topic because there are students involved, and people like him don't know that," retorted junior Kerry O'Neill.

SKA FACE DEBUTS AT FRESHMAN DANCE

by Jillana Robertson

December 5th has come and gone, and only a precious few will remember that Ska Face played for the Freshman dance.

The band members had only been playing together since September. The members are as follows: Pierce Woodward on piano, Ben Hardy as the lead singer, Jeff Lang on bass, Kurt Weisman on trombone, Mike Merenda and Chris Davis on guitar, Tom Lanoie on sax, and Chris Merenda on drums. Pierce Woodward commented that their band "Allows for more creativity. It's not just the same old instruments."

Oyster River's very own Mike Merenda and Hunt Howell were the DJ's and opened the dance. At around 9:00 pm, they handed the stage over to Ska Face. "Although the crowd was small, they were good," said Mike Merenda once they had finished playing.

Ska Face played nine different songs. Five of which had been written by Mike Merenda while Jeff Lang and Kurt Weisman had each written one. "Dead or Alive" was played although originally written by the Busters along with the Cure's "Just Like Heaven." Ska Face was cool because it was happy pogo music," commented Roger LaMarque.

After the band had played, Kurt Weisman said, "It's a great opportunity for the band." Once the band had finished, more people left while few stayed to hear the DJs play their music again.

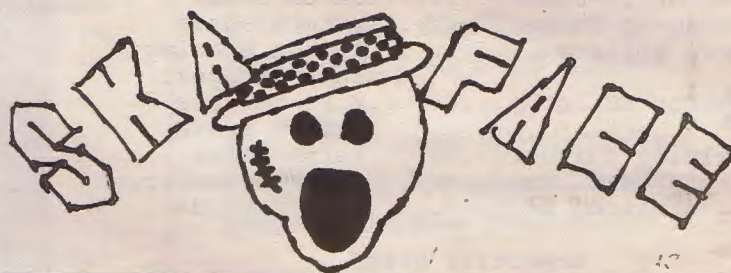
Karaoke became the theme for the night. Jeff Lang sang a very loud "Born in the USA" and Daphne Turcotte and Meilliege Rodriguez replayed "Skid Row" from Little Shop Of Horrors that was performed last year. After Karaoke came the sing along to Old MacDonald and BINGO. Then came what appeared to be improvisation time in which Mike Merenda, Ben Hardy, Jeff Lang, Chris Merenda, and Tom Lanoie played once again.

TEL. 868-2488



Great Bay
Cleaners

JENKINS COURT
DURHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03824



"A Durham Tradition"

Town & Campus, Inc.
64 Main St. Durham, NH 868-9661
"Durham's Most Complete Store"
Headquarters for UNH Clothing
and Gifts- Hallmark Cards-School
Supplies- Tapes and CD's

OP/ED

E • D • I • T • O • R • I • A • L

Is ORHS ready for the real test? There has been a lot of talk lately about involving students in their own educations and in the running of good ol' Oyster River, but how far are they willing to go? We have student representatives on the new Advisory Council making suggestions to the established "Powers", but are the "Powers" ready to give students a role in making decisions about Oyster River?

Student Council has decided to devote a lot of their time to creating a system of school government that is democratic rather than autocratic. No specific plans have been decided, but Council members envision a school government made up of students, faculty, administration, community members, and school board members. With representatives from every major group in the school community, Student Council hopes that the government will have some real decision-making power.

Student Council realizes that in order for their plans to work, they must have the full support of the entire school community. They hope ORHS will look to high schools like Souhegan and Hanover for inspiration, where these programs are up and running with enthusiastic community support.

We at **Mouth of the River** believe that it's about time students were given the opportunity to contribute positively to the school. We hope that the entire community will pull together to support this change. Students make up the majority of the population in this school and should have a voice in how it is run.

Mouth of the River A Publication of ORHS Journalism

Editor-in-Chief.....Sarah Dugas
Managing Editor.....Quincy Souza
News Editors.....Amanda McAuley
Seth DeForest
Sports Editor.....Mike Merenda
Quincy Souza
Opinion Editor.....Sarah Dugas
Features Editor.....Kimberly Anderson
Advertising Editor.....Mike Merenda

Reporting Staff

Sebastian Adams	Kalim Armstrong
Ryan Bellabona	Ben Bilodeau
Scott Blasik	Melanie Chase
Lori Andersen	Sean Dolliver
Joe Fernald	Katherine Fernald
Lesley Folensbee	Chantal Grady
Maggie Jentes	Roger LaMarque
Josh Leyden	Aaron Major
Laurie McDowell	Sean Moriarty
Kerry O'Neill	Jillana Robertson
Kristy Schreiter	Corey Stacy
Brian Tagliaferro	Fawn Veno
Julie Wourgiotis	

Advisors

Richard Tappan Michael Landau



BIRK DENIAL?

Commentary by Roger LaMarque

I've had just about enough of Birkenstocks. They're really starting to bother me. Not only do I see them everywhere in this school, but they are spreading to the outside world as well. If you buy some of these shoes you not only get a pair of the ugliest shoes in the world, but you've only wasted \$93. I would spend it on school supplies before I would buy Birks!!

Self-declared loser Kalim Armstrong says, "Well, they're hippie shoes, dysfunctional for skating and they just don't hurt when you kick someone." Communist Chairwoman Amanda McAuley was quoted as saying, "Will you go away if I give you a quote, or do I have to have the KGB talk to you again?" A closet anonymous Birk owner (sophomore Fawn Veno) says, "Sometimes when you are going up stairs they catch and you fall on your face. Uh, but that never happens to me, of course." Philip (Benny) Bilodeau commented, "A friend of mine wears Birks and she always complains that her feet are cold." Of course they're cold! It's 15 degrees out and you don't even have socks on! "Birks are my friends, they talk to me." said our schizophrenic Editor-in-Chief, Sarah Dugas. Sarah Dugas was also quoted as saying "They're comfortable and nice. I mean, what do you want me to say?" Clearly she expects me to tell her what to say, which is a sign of Birk denial. Then again, she's a little on the nutty side and her opinion is biased.

My theory is that Birks emit a mind inducing spore that is absorbed into the foot, therefore affecting not only the wearer's judgement and vision, but the spore continues to kill all nerves in the foot-giving the illusion of comfort. Therefore, with this conclusion, it is necessary to note that people that wear Birks are not at fault; it is a terrible disease that can affect anyone. If you know anyone that is showing the signs of Birk denial then get them help fast. They may hate you now, but they will thank you later.

----------*-----*-----*-----*

This commentary doesn't necessarily represent the opinions of this paper, but if it doesn't it's just because they are currently in Birk Denial.



Birks invade O.R.

Survey on: Sexual Harassment When "Getting Personal" is no Longer a Joke

by Kristy Schreiter and Maggie Jentes

A sexual harassment case at ORHS? Many think that such a serious and publicly talked about subject would never sweep the halls of our small town school. Believe it or not, Oyster River is just as susceptible to social problems as any other school in the U.S.

When dealing with such a topic, a number of questions arise. Where do we draw the line as to what classifies as sexual harassment? If someone doesn't mind the sexual advances while someone else is clearly offended, is the action still considered harassment?

One of the biggest problems with sexual harassment is not the harassment itself, but people's neglect to report it.

A survey was given to a total of 110 students (at least 2 homerooms per class). Compiling the results of the survey and the comments written, it was clear to see that students had many strong opinions. Answering twelve yes or no questions, the students were asked to decide whether each situation was sexual harassment. Of the twelve, four questions had overwhelming results in the "yes" category.

The top question was: 'A boss tells an employee that if they can succeed to satisfy them sexually, they will get a raise.' 100 people answered yes, 8 people answered no, while 2 people had no opinion.

The next question had 93 yes answers, 12 no answers, and 5 people with no opinion:

'You're at a party and someone comes up to you and starts to make sexual advances. When you tell them to leave, they won't.'

One student replied: "The sense of 'no means yes' is still prevalent in many societies."

The next two situations ranked high in the yes opinion. To this situation 85 people answered yes, 19 answered no, and 6 people had no opinion: 'You are sitting alone at a table in the cafe waiting for your friends to arrive when a "dominant member of the opposite sex" sits beside you, slips their hand under the table, and places it on your knee. The

person then proceeds to tell you how sexually appealing you are.'

The next situation (#4) had 60 yes answers, 46 no answers, and 6 people with no opinion.

'You are walking down the street and out of nowhere someone whistles and compliments your backside.'

The rest of the survey consisted of the following:

'When walking down the hallway, you have a friend who commonly winks and calls you "cutie".' (7 yes's, 102 no's, and 1 with no opinion.)

'Talking with a member of the opposite sex, they proceed to make sexual advances and "undress you with their eyes".' (51 yes's, 51 no's, and 8 people with no opinion.)

'You're sitting at your desk and your teacher walks over, places their hand on your shoulder, and tells you that you look nice today.' (21 yes's, 78 no's, and 11 people with no opinion.)

'A friend gives you a hug.' (5 yes's, 94 no's, and 11 with no opinion.)

'A female leans over to a male and points out the fact that his fly is down.' (8 yes's, 101 no's, and 1 person with no opinion.)

'A guy calls a girl a "slut".' (51 yes's, 58 no's, and 1 person with no opinion.)

'A girl goes into the boys bathroom.' (24 yes's, 76 no's, and 10 people with no opinion.)

'A boy goes into the girls bathroom.' (24 yes's, 76 no's, and 10 people with no opinion.)

ORHS is heading towards an awareness of the problem. We started the awareness process in October when a sexual harassment speaker (Joe Cavanaugh) came to speak with the students. According to principal Ann Brown, not only are the students becoming aware, but the district school board members are acting out.

On December 15, the district school board went to the student affairs committee with a proposal of sexual harassment regulations at ORHS. (Due to press time, the results were not available to us.) The regulations will include a definition of harassment, inappropriate behavior, disciplinary actions, and reporting procedures.

MANY BELIEVE PEER OUTREACH DOESN'T

Kalim Armstrong

Commentary

Every year there has been an article on Peer Outreach. Every year it's the same ol' schtick, an article telling the student body of our "utopian" school what the few select members of our confidential peer outreach do because no one seems to know. As some Peer Outreach (P.O.) members say, "We don't know exactly what our function is."

But... this year P.O. seems to have lifted the veil. Most groups take time to develop. In the four years P.O. has been in creation, this year they seem to be blossoming. Not only have they sold flowers but they



Mandy Tolson With Peer Outreach

have had a very successful food drive and concocted an Aids awareness week.

Facilitator to the program, Ms. Houseman, says that a P.O. member first has to help themselves before helping others. But who is P.O. going to help? The members friends. It is only natural that someone with a problem will approach a friend for shelter. What seems to be happening is P.O. members are talking to their friends about there problems but their friends are also P.O. members and there isn't much outreaching going on.

Many seniors feel that the P.O. members are very cliquey. Mandy Tolson, advisor, says that the members become close because of the training they go through. so who cares. If people have a problem with the people on peer out reach why don't they apply.

When asked what she would fix first, the soda machine or Peer Outreach, our principal Ms. Brown says, "I would probably fix the soda machine." This statement says either she doesn't care or P.O. is fine the way it is. Makes you wonder.

P.O., an organization that wants more people to know what it is when just this year they are getting their priorities straight. Each year the top of the town, pick of the crop, head of the lettuce members, change and this year the tables are a turnin' and the crowds a yearnin' cause Peer Outreach is a learnin' what to do.

When the Smoke Clears They Take a Kodiak Dip

by Sean Moriarty

Over the past decade, the use of smokeless tobacco has increased among teenagers throughout the country, and is starting to become more widespread at Oyster River.

At OR, the most talked about and most noticeable form of tobacco is cigarettes, but over the past decade the number of people who smoke has been going down and the number of people who chew or dip is going up. But smoking is the most talked about, mainly because of secondary smoke which makes it much more noticeable than dipping. The hard fact is, dipping is three times as addictive as smoking because a pinch of snuff has three times the nicotine as one cigarette. People who dip can be exposed to mouth cancer in as little as six months. So why do kids dip? One freshman who chose to remain anonymous responded, "I like to spit," and a senior who also chose to remain anonymous said, "I needed an alternative to smoking, and I feel that it's not as offensive because there is no secondary smoke. Plus I like the taste." But some people feel that dipping is gross. Junior Dawn Igoe says, "dippers make bad kissers." But the fact is, a lot of kids are trying it. A poll was taken of guys in the first lunch and out of 35 kids, 24 of them had tried smokeless tobacco at one point. When principal Mrs Brown was asked about the use of smokeless tobacco at Oyster River, she responded, "It's always a problem because it is a health risk, and it's hard to tell if they are doing it because it could be gum or a blowpop."

So what direction will smokeless tobacco go from here? The chances are, more kids will continue to try it and get addicted because too many kids have the wrong impression that smokeless tobacco won't harm you. The hard fact is, it begins to harm you immediately.



The RUSSIANS ARE COMING!

During the last two weeks
of April (including vacation),
3 teachers and twelve students
are coming to visit O.R.H.S.

If your family is interested
in hosting for one or both
weeks, please contact:

Mr. Alex Herlihy
school: 868-2375
home: 964-9079

This is a wonderful cultural
opportunity that many have
shared over several years.
Please consider being part
of this effort for better
understanding with the people
of the newly-emerging Russia.

ENTERTAINMENT

5 SENIORS APPLY FOR ONE ACTS

By Lesley Folensbee and Roger LaMarque

Final selections for the senior-directed plays will be announced before Christmas vacation. The Performing Arts Council has met twice to discuss the five proposals, they listed the strengths and weaknesses of each one submitted.

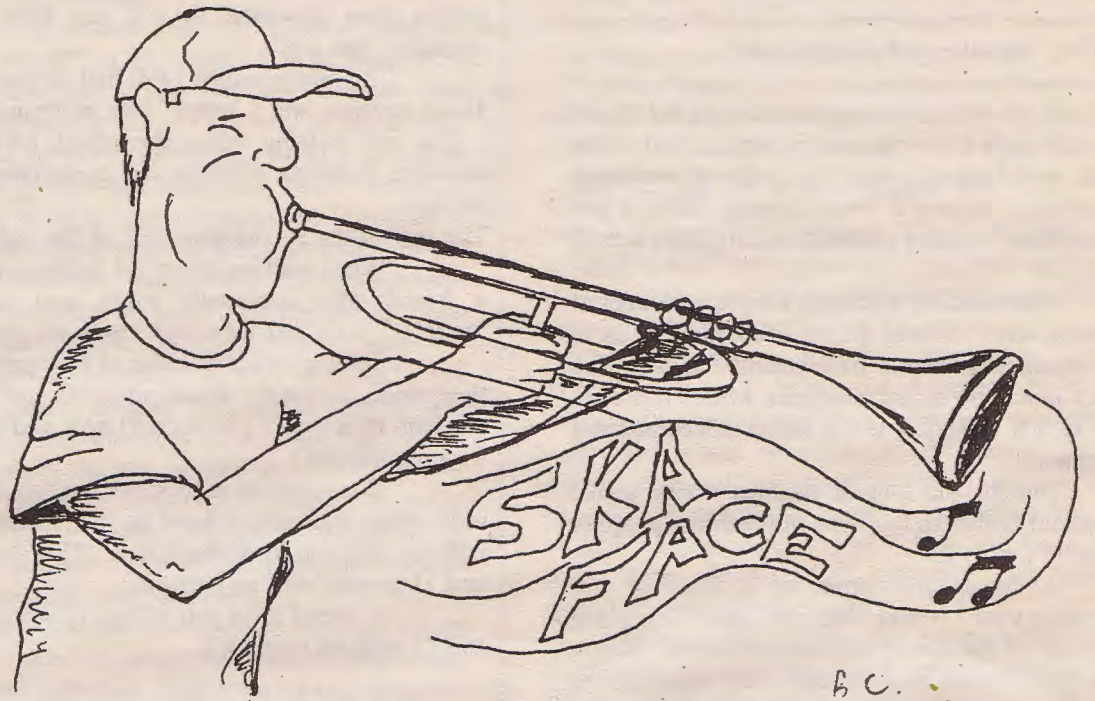
The proposals are as follows: Chris Weisman, the play is untitled and is written by Josh Nute and Chris; Kasey Evans, a play called "Summer People" written by Shirley Jackson; Mike Merenda, titled "Da Play" and is written by Mike; Tammie Spencer, an excerpt from "Alice in Wonderland" written by Lewis Carroll; and Beth Dell, "By the Waters of Babylon."

The seniors that have submitted their applications will be chosen on the basis of what plays they intend to direct, their previous acting and directing experience, and their willingness to carry out the project.

The senior advisors are Mr. Tappan and Mrs. Rous, both english teachers at ORHS. Kasey Evans, one of the applicants, was quoted as saying, "Mr. Tappan and Mrs. Rous are excellent advisors. They are both willing to listen to new ideas, but are firm with their directorial convictions." Kasey is hoping that this year's senior plays will be taken more seriously and hopes that bigger commitment will be made. The Performing Arts Council feels that this years applicants should have a higher commitment level because of the three senior plays that fell through last year.

Mr. Tappan has been the advisor of senior-directed plays since 1982, when a senior approached him about directing a 30 minute production. The first few productions were traveling shows where the director and cast went to area schools and nursing homes during the school day to perform. The school attendance policy change in 1984 didn't allow these absences and senior-directed one act plays were born.

(One-acts cont. pg. 8)



Group Forms to Support Oyster River Performing Arts

by Laurie McDowell

Are you aware that parents and community members have formed a drama support group? They have and it goes by the name Friends of PerFORMance.

This group was made in order to help teachers and students get involved in the performing arts. The members are trying to get more students to perform for audiences of all ages in the community and maybe travel to other schools. They would like to bring attention to schools and the community about the performing arts. Mrs. Diana Carroll (a member of Friends of PerFORMance) states, "The Performing Arts are a great outlet for students and not just an 'extra'. Art is something that really enriches our lives. You learn so much about life."

Members would also like to form a coffee shop for Middle and Elementary school students. Another idea is to combine interested students from all three schools and make a chorus which can perform as a whole some evening. Parents and/or community members could also perform during this event.

Middle school teacher, Mr. Ervin, organized something similar to what Friends of PerFORMance members want to do. Last St. Patrick's Day he took a group of students to the Community Church here in Durham to sing Irish Songs to senior citizens. According to a Friends of PerFORMance member the event was a big success.

This drama group was made to help sponsor those in music, but last spring it was reorganized to help performers not only in music but also involved in

(FOP cont'd page 9)

DECEMBER HOROSCOPE

by Laurie McDowell

AQUARIUS: Jan.20-Feb.18

You're a very original person. Be creative and make some big changes in your personal life. You have the power to make great things happen.

Lucky love days: 16,23

Lucky color: peach

PISCES: Feb.19-Mar.20

Lots of opportunities are heading your way. Keep your eyes open and be ready for some drastic changes. Friends and neighbors are there to lend a helping hand.

Lucky love days: 3,15

Lucky color: dandelion yellow

ARIES: Mar.21-Apr.19

Right now your love life is set and going great. People change so don't forget your friends. They're there for you always. You have a personality that makes everyone want to be with you.

Lucky love days: 13,25

Lucky color: Teal

TAURUS: Apr.20-May 20

You've got strong opinions but don't push them too hard on friends. Be a talker AND a listener. Some of their opinions may be useful.

Lucky love days: 8,24

Lucky color: midnight blue

GEMINI: May 21-June 20

Hey twin, as of right now your love life is a little slow, but don't worry things will pick up sooner than you think. An acquaintance may become more during the holiday season. P.S. Stop being so shy.

Lucky love days: 6,19

Lucky color: emerald green

CANCER: June 21-July 22

Don't jump into anything too serious right now. Make sure it's worth it first. Communication is a big part of any relationship. Try concentrating on your school work too.

Lucky love days: 17,20

Lucky color: magenta

LEO: July 23-Aug.22

Lucky for you, your guardian angel is watching you this month. Listen to your conscience and go for it. It's time to come out of your shell and make the first move. Love is standing right below the stairs. Be aware of mistletoe in the least expected places.

Lucky love days: 9,18

Lucky color: royal blue

VIRGO: Aug.23-Sept.22

Procrastination seems to be a big problem for you. Why not get a head start on things before waiting till the last minute. Keep your eyes open for that special someone.

Lucky love days: 1,11

Lucky color: turquoise

LIBRA: Sept.23-Oct.22

Because you're such an optimist you believe things will work out themselves, no matter how long it takes. Don't get involved in dispute amongst friends. Things are looking up in the relationship department.

Lucky love days: 7,29

Lucky color: hot pink

SCORPIO: Oct.23-Nov.21

Boy do you know how to attract attention. Watch out, it's not always good. Try not be cocky this month. It comes across to others as immature. Don't be so judgmental or macho.

Lucky love days: 2,31

Lucky color: black

SAGITTARIUS: Nov.22-Dec.21

If you're in a relationship now, keep it up, you're doing great. If not... have fun this month and don't get stressed out. Start flirting a little and let people know you're interested and available.

Lucky love days: 26,22

Lucky color: fabulous purple

CAPRICORN: Dec.22-Jan.19

Don't listen to rumors for they're not true. Instead listen to the one you love. You might be sent on a couple of emotional roller coasters but everything will straighten out.

Lucky love days: 16,23

Lucky color: cherry red

Jazzing It UP!

Two years ago Marc Laforce came to Oyster River High School with dreams of starting a great jazz band. The first year of jazz band was 1991-92. It was in school during third period every day, and there was more time to practice and listen to other artists play their style of jazz. A few years before Mr. Laforce came David Ervin was the conductor for the 1986-87 and 1987-88 school years, but his commitments at the middle school were too big so he could no longer continue conducting at the high school. Last year Jazz band was held after school and although the few loyal players showed up, there wasn't overwhelming interest. This was because there was no real advertising that there was a jazz band. In a perfect world where everyone could and wanted to participate it would be in school, but there isn't enough time in school due to the students scheduling problems.

Mr. Laforce believes, "Timing isn't everything. The right people help too." He described the atmosphere and attitudes of the people in the band as: "Relaxed but committed to a good product. There is low pressure and they have fun playing jazz - keeping the American art form alive because jazz is the only contribution to music that truly belongs to us."

This year's band consists of ten young musicians. They are as follows: Eric Trufant on guitar, Shawna Turner on clarinet, Josh Leyden on trumpet, Tom Lanoie on saxophone, Julie Hardy on bass, Kurt Weisman on trombone, Chris Weisman on saxophone, Kalim Armstrong on drums, Pierce Woodward on piano, and Jeremy Streeter on saxophone.

Eric Trufant, says, "I love jazz and every time I play it's like I get a natural high." Eric has been

(Jazz band cont. pg. 9)



"MY LIFE" a 10

by Sebastian Adams

In my most recent adventure to the movie theater I saw a very exquisite film, "My Life" starring Michael Keaton. "My Life" is a story about Bob Jones, a very successful Public Relations agent in Los Angeles, who has discovered that he has cancer and might die before the birth of his child. The story begins with a young boy making a wish to God for a circus to be in his back yard when he gets home from school. He had to wait a lifetime to see that wish come true.

The movie then jumps to Bob, the young boy as an adult, making a video tape of himself so that his child will have something to know him by. Bob has terminal cancer, and now, his wishes are more important than ever before.

He carries a video camera almost everywhere he goes, recording anything he thinks would be essential to his child. Though he knows he has a short time to live, he still manages to keep a witty charm about his situation, which, in his own way, is protecting him from reality.

But be forewarned; bring lots and lots of kleenex because Keaton has done a superb job playing this particular role. Nicole Kidman also plays a good supporting role as his long suffering wife. The performance was magnificent, an absolute 10. The only thing I would have done differently would be to reduce the jump cuts from scene to scene.

Overall, "My Life" was a touching film that I highly recommend.

FINE DINING IN PORTSMOUTH

Julie Wourgiotis & Katherine Fernald

You've finally done it. You've gotten up the courage to ask the guy/girl you've been admiring across the classroom for a date. Of course he/she has accepted so you're all set. You just bought a new outfit from the mall, picked up your paycheck, and got permission to borrow your parents' car for Friday night. All's well, right? Wrong. You're not going to impress your date by cruising through the drive-thru at KFC. You need to show him/her your style - a place with class. Here's your quick and easy guide to three restaurants in Portsmouth to impress your date where the standard is candlelight and freshly cut flowers on each table.

The Salt Water Trading Company. Renovated from an 18th-century townhouse on "The Hill", as it is known, this establishment with slightly uneven wooden floors and homestyle woodwork has character and provides a romantic and relaxed atmosphere. Formerly the location of The Codfish, the second floor dining area remains the same, as does the bar beneath it. Evenings late in the week, you'll be able to hear a few strains from the live musicians performing downstairs.

Partitions divide four or five dining rooms, so privacy is almost always insured, allowing you and your date to speak freely without being overheard. Conversation time will be limited, however, due to the quick service. The menu is made up of regular mainstream dishes, from hamburgers to pasta, just prepared well. The cost is about ten dollars per person. So, if you're looking for a relatively inexpensive and enjoyable evening, check out the Salt Water Trading Company.

The Library. Mounting the granite stairs, passing between two bronze lions, and entering through one of the thickest doors on the seacoast, you experience The Library at the Rockingham House on State street. In the background, trills from a Mozart sonata dance up and down the scale as you're led to your secluded table. Isolated by bookshelves and seated at the nearby tables are the elite clientele: doctors, lawyers, and other finely

dressed patrons.

Scanning the menu, you will see that this restaurant serves a variety of the finest food available on the seacoast. While they do offer one or two selections for vegetarians, it isn't a main concern here. The price of ten to twenty-five dollars per plate may seem rather high, but you're getting anything from roasted duck in plum sauce to sauteed lobster and shrimp in a white wine sauce, served over a bed of fresh tomato-basil linguine.

While admiring the menu, don't forget to check out the back. There, you'll find some history of the place about its rebuilding after a devastating fire around the turn-of-the-century. The slightly too-dim lighting provides some difficulties while you're eating, but if you're willing to go the full nine yards, try The Library at the Rockingham House. You will be sure to leave a dignified impression on your companion.

The Grotto. If you're a middle-of-the-road person, then this is the place for you. Located on Pleasant Street, The Grotto will impress you with its tasteful decor and the hearty, robust portions that won't empty your wallet. An average meal for two will cost between thirty and forty dollars, and consisting of fine Greek or Italian dishes that include lots of pasta.

Service is slow, but the careful preparation of each dish makes the lengthy wait worthwhile, as does the basket of freshly baked crusty Italian bread. The more than ample portions are served on brightly painted ceramic platters. Although not as quiet as The Library, the romantic atmosphere tops off the meal, as does the view of the stars through the skylights on a clear night. Leave your date with a dinner he/she won't soon forget by checking out The Grotto.

So this Friday, while getting ready for your date, you won't have to worry about where to eat by choosing any of these three restaurants suggested. The rest of the night is up to you, but we guarantee at least one good aspect will come out of the evening; enjoyable dining!

Young's Restaurant
"A Pleasant Place
to Dine - Anytime"



•Take out available

•Homemade pastries

48 Main Street
Durham, N.H. 03824
868-2688

Benjamin's Restaurant

SUNDAY BREAKFAST BUFFET

Featuring.....
Fresh Baked Muffins & Pastries
Juice, Fruit & Assorted Cereals
Eggs Benedict & Huevos Rancheros
Scrambled Eggs & French Toast
Bacon, Sausage & Corned Beef Hash
Home Fries & Baked Beans
Gourmet Coffees & Assorted Desserts

Sunday from 10AM til 2PM

All You Can Eat, \$6.95 per Person

Benjamin's Restaurant

13 Jenkins Court, Downtown Durham, 868-6611

Present This Coupon for One
HALF PRICE
Breakfast Buffet
Sunday, 10:00AM to 2:00 PM
Benjamin's Restaurant

offer expires 1/31/93

CAN ORHS COPE WITH STRESS?

by Aaron Major

It's 7:20 in the morning and the early comers to school have already crowded the hallways. Everywhere, students can be seen studying, doing homework, or working on class projects. Suddenly, the bell rings, and students slowly gather their belongings, unsure of what the day holds.

"Did you study for the math quiz?"

"Yeah, I did this morning--but I know I'll fail it."

Conversations like this one can be heard through the sounds of murmured voices, slamming lockers, and the never ending pattering of footsteps. These are the voices of stressed out students, students that study for a test just before it's passed out, students that do their homework before school starts, students under a lot of pressure. But just to what extent are students under stress?

"I have a debate, a Spanish test, a math quiz, and a science presentation--all due on Friday," said one anxious student.

Now we take you to a typical math class: the bell is about to ring and tonight's assignment has already been given out. "There will be a test on Friday," the teacher announces. Suddenly groans and looks of despair flood the room. Another subject added to the already full homework list.

"What I see here are the two extremes. There are a lot of students with too much free time...and some have no free time."

But how does stress and pressure affect students? Ms. Winterbottom, the school Vice Principal and Guidance Director said that it is a "real individual thing." She said that some students need things to do while others don't like having much to do at all. "What I see here are the two extremes," she said. "There are a lot of students with too much free time...and some students have no free time."

Stress does not only affect academics. Ms.

(Harassment cont'd from page 1) students of ORHS. The board also determined a procedure for dealing with the harasser. (It is taken directly from the policy text.)

"All reports of sexual harassment will be considered significant and serious. The reports and or complaints will be promptly and thoroughly investigated. In situations where it is determined that sexual harassment has occurred, there will be a commitment to correct the situation, discipline the offender, and protect everyone from further harassment and retaliation."

The policy also states that harassment is not simply limited to minor, passive acts, but it ranges from verbal harassment to sexual violence; which is a physical act of aggression that includes sexual acts or purposes.

There is also a posted complaint procedure that fits into the policy. If passed, the policy will be posted on various walls in the hallways, by the first of the year.

After talking with Nancy Winterbottom, we were not surprised to hear that there have already been a handful of cases at ORHS. One case is too many, and this handful doesn't include the numerous cases that go unreported.

In response to recent discussions at ORHS, Chris Weisman commented: "You cannot develop rules of sexual conduct. Each individual situation has it's own complications, and making generals is irrelevant. What needs to happen is the death of male or female dominance, and put in it's place, a mutual respect."

(One-Acts cont'd from page 6)

past five years at least one senior-directed play has been written by the student director. Applicants Mike Merenda, Chris Weisman, and Josh Nute have decided to submit personally authored plays this year.

The budget for each senior-directed play is a maximum of \$200. Mr. Tappan says that in past years they have not had a problem maintaining that. The biggest expense of the plays are the scripts, which cost about \$4 each, with royalties ranging from \$40 - \$60.

Winterbottom felt that the increase in violence in this school may be because of pressure. "It builds up and soon little things start to irritate them, like the bells or the crowded halls," she notes. Unfortunately, she has also noticed that often, when this pressure is released, it comes out all at once and in the form of violence.

All over the school halls, the looks of students under pressure can be seen. These long-faced, anxious individuals argue with the lock on their locker, push people out of their way to get to class, and get unnecessarily angry with broken pencils or wrong biology answers. Soon they begin to seclude themselves from the school social life, doing all of their work in school because home is where they can relax. Homework assignments are completed--between mouthfuls of salad, and the five minutes between class are spent studying Spanish verbs.

So what is the solution to this problem? Ms. Winterbottom says that she would like to see something along the lines of a "time out" where students can relax and release tension. She also feels that starting school later, getting rid of the bells, and making a different schedule would change the repetitiveness of classes and could let students get more in-depth with a subject.

With these new changes, students may start school at 8:00 and after so many class periods they would be able to sit and relax. The irritating repetitiveness of going to the same classes for the same amount of time may change to going to one class for two hours and another class for an hour and a half, but until changes are made, students will just have to learn how to deal with stress. One suggestion that Ms. Winterbottom gave was an increased involvement in sports. Sports, she said, is a good way to put the built up energy of stress and pressure to good use.

Now our school day draws to a close--or does it? The tightly packed book bags, fashionably carried by most students, bring the pressures of school life back home with them. Then when they sit down after dinner, staring dumbstruck at the immense workload that has been presented to them, they sit back and say: "I have ten minutes before class to do this tomorrow."

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

HARDWARE

OUGH TONS

TRUE VALUE OF THE MONTH True Value

Master ELECTRICIAN

LANTERN FLASHLIGHT VALUE PACK

Includes 2 Flashlights, 6 Batteries

688

Flashlights

217 734 70 DECEMBER T.V.O.M.

WHILE SUPPLIES LAST QUANTITIES LIMITED

(Jazz Band cont'd from page 7)

playing guitar for four years and piano for seven; a total of seven years of jazz composition.

Tom Lanoie has been playing jazz for about seven years: "I like it because jazz has more feeling." Jazz artist Kalim Armstrong has been playing jazz practically all of his life because his dad is a jazz musician. This year Kalim is playing drums for the band because there was an absence in that area, but his real love is guitar. On this subject Kalim commented, "It doesn't matter what the instrument is as long as the feeling is in your playing."

The jazz band's last concert was combined with the middle school band's on Thursday December 16th at 7:30 p.m. in the Oyster River High School

(FOP cont'd from page 6)

plays and poetry(for example). As of this date the group does not have regular meetings but does meet at least once a month to publicize and talk about upcoming drama events.

One big thing the members would like to see happen is a banquet at the end of the year to honor all those who were involved in drama throughout the year. This would be similar to the annual Sports Awards Banquet sponsored by the Booster Club. They would also like to spend either a Saturday or an entire weekend festival at Wagon Hill Farm just to do some drama kind of activities. This festival would be open to everybody.

The Friends of PerfORMance group believes the Performing Arts are something every person in the Oyster River community (and others) should get involved in because they're an important part of life.

Parents or community members not already involved in Friends of PerfORMance and are interested in becoming members should contact Mr.Tappen to get information.

(Theft cont'd from page 1)

incident as "limiting everyone's access to technology." She added, "If we can't keep track of one, no one will want to lend us more." Possible preventative solutions to this problem will be putting security cables on equipment, limiting the availability, and cutting down on what people feel comfortable letting others use. Junior Josh Orkin said, "It's sad to see such moral corruption and social irresponsibility in a setting so close to home." Freshman Lindsay White suggests, "If you want to be treated like an adult, act like one."

While many students recommended installing combination locks into the lockers as a solution, it isn't likely to happen. The installation of locks would require new doors for each locker. It is possible to borrow a lock from the school based on a small refundable deposit.

Although Ms. Brown thinks there is an overall increase in criminal activity in the community, she thinks some things can be done to make life easier at ORHS. The first suggestion she makes is that we need to make lifestyle changes. For example, do not leave valuables in your locker, make sure the doors are shut, and if you have a lock, don't tell anyone your combination. Don't publicize the fact that you have valuables in your locker - that becomes an invitation for theft. Second, there will be more supervision in hallways as the staff has agreed to further their efforts in keeping students out of the halls. Ms Brown added, "By encouraging students to stay out of the halls, hopefully people and property will be safer." Third, she tells everyone to hope for the best. Take the precautions and don't put your property in a position that could tempt others.

(Bond issue cont'd from page 1)

School Board Chairperson Martha Gooze commented, "I expected the short meeting. The people truly just wanted to come and vote."

After voting, Leslye Dedopoulos of Durham replied, "People probably know that this is the last-ditch effort. That's why I'm here; it's now or never."

Another voter, obviously hostile with the short discussion period stated, "I don't even have kids. Why should I pay to renovate these schools? The kids don't know how lucky they really are." The man wished to remain anonymous.

Awaiting the results of the vote, Marty Gooze says, "Oyster River students have done extremely well following graduation; including jobs, college, and the military. We have one of the highest graduation rates in the state. The students don't deserve this. It's a shame that even with a 2/3 majority vote our space problems aren't solved; it takes funding."

Facing Challenges With Inter-Racial Adoption

by Corey Stacy

About a year and a half ago, Ms. Winterbottom adopted a baby boy. She is very much enjoying her adopted baby and cherishes the time she has had with him. Although this may seem like the story of any ordinary adoption, this one is particularly special. Ms. Winterbottom adopted a beautiful black boy named Isaiah.

When she adopted her baby, she told the adoption center she had no preference for gender or race. "I was thrilled when I heard that the baby was black because I have always been very interested in people of color."

Some black organizations have tried to pass laws in some states to make sure that only blacks could adopt blacks. Ms. Winterbottom believes that the reason they are trying to do this is so the adopted babies preserve their culture and aren't taken away from their own heritage.

"This makes sense to me, but these children need homes." The fact is that there are thousands of children of color, waiting for homes who may never get them if they are not adopted by a different race. Ms. Winterbottom is very sensitive to her son's need to have contact with blacks and the black culture. To make this successful she goes to a group where she and her son are able to talk and make contact with other children of the black race, as well as talk to other adopted children. She believes that this is a small way of helping Isaiah learn about his race and the fact that he is an adopted child.

Ms. Winterbottom is a single parent working full time and tries to spend as much time with her children as possible. She is not opposed to marriage and says "it's probably best to have two parents, but it's the same as the race issue," meaning these children need homes and are better off with a single parent than no parent at all.

Ms. Winterbottom also has an eight year old boy

named Zack, her biological child. She enjoys her role of being a mother to two children, even though she works full time. The weekends are always a time she looks forward to so she can spend more time with her children. "I love to see the two of them interact," she said. "It's really fun for me to watch." She also loves the fun little experiences which happen unexpectedly.

She feels she will be a successful single parent with help from her friends and "with Gods blessings." She hopes she will continue to have a good job and things continue to go as well as they are now.

(Bowles from back page)

He also commented that Shannon is not hard to coach but not easy either. "She is a perfectionist, and that can become frustrating, but I enjoy her and I like being a part of her success."

Shannon and Retrosi had strong comments on whether she had "lost" her childhood to the gym. "What she misses socially she will be able to do later on. That question is my pet peeve," said Retrosi. "We [coaches] are not taking anything from her, we are giving her opportunities. Opportunities to travel, the experience of sharing her experiences with her parents, and having friends in and out of the gym and around the world." Retrosi feels that the sport takes a beating from the press on this issue, adding that the statement "lost" is sexist and untrue. Shannon feels that she can make it all up later and that no one makes her go to the gym--she wants to go, and the gym is her childhood.



Shannon Bowles works out on the balance beam

SCORPIO'S PROVISIONS



With this coupon:
2 movies for the price of 1

SPORTS

Ryan Bellabona

The banner that hangs in the rafters of our gymnasium will forever be a reminder of a successful fall season for the 1993 Oyster River Girls' Volleyball Team. The Class I champs don't credit any one player for their accomplishments this season. "It was a total team effort," was how senior captain Quincy Souza explained it. "If you work hard, it will pay off in the end, which it did," she added. Sophomore Amy Howell agreed. "Everyone has their own special place on the team. We all got along really well and had great attitudes. These factors are really the key to winning."

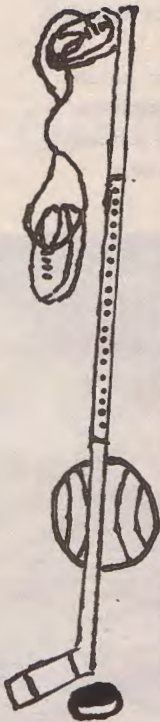
Although they'll be losing three seniors to graduation, they are all optimistic about next season. When asked about next year's outlook for the ORHS Girls' Volleyball team, Souza commented, "It looks good, they'll be young, but they will have good, talented players." Out of the varsity players that are returning, there are three sophomore starters, Jessica Houle, Amy Howell, and Krista Poole. Also the two freshmen alternates, Katie Jentes and Stacey Shaheen will also be back. Many of these returning players will be staying in shape by playing in Junior Olympic Volleyball Programs in New Hampshire or in Massachusetts.

With a State Championship under their belts and a 17-2 record this season, the ORHS Girls' Volleyball team will definitely be the team to watch for in many seasons to come.

Volleyball wasn't the only team to finish with a successful season. The Oyster River Girls' soccer team finished with a winning record of 9-8, losing a tough 5-0 Class I quarter final game to Souhegan. The score does not necessarily reflect on how well they played. Team member Fawn Veno commented, "The first half was the best we played all season."

Junior Jamie Smith felt that the team's record did not really reflect on how good the team really is. "There was a lot of talent there. We just need to get our act together mentally." Veno agreed that sometimes the general attitude on the team wasn't really what it should have been and it did take away from the team's unity. "But," she said, "Everyone worked really hard to improve things and the second half of the season was a real turning point for the team."

Girls' soccer will be looking to improve next season and many returning players will be preparing for that goal by playing on club teams. They are also hoping to get the team together to play indoor soccer in Manchester.



Transcript photo

Seth DeForest advances up field as Pierce Woodward supports

Cirillo Leads Bobcats to Best Season in 5 years

by Brian Tagliaferro

In the midst of a crisp, fresh, beautiful fall afternoon, as the sun pronounces the colors of autumn and a slight breeze gives life to the surroundings, a young man paces the sideline, barking orders, and shouting words of encouragement. He squats and looks on pensively; then he stands, walks swiftly to the bench, and says "Andrew, get Keith." He crosses his arms, "don't force it, come on now guys." He squats again.

It was over a year ago when John Cirillo, then nineteen and on leave from his sophomore year of college, was announced the boys J.V. soccer team head coach. He was excited to teach the basic skills of how to play, and to develop the young athletes. The season was successful, and the players enjoyed the young coach who had helped them to a 10-3-1 record.

"I know the tricks they try to pull, because I did the same."

A year later Cirillo took the job of head coach of the varsity team. "I did not plan on coaching varsity until I was told by Mike (previous coach) in June that he wouldn't be back. I knew it would be a big challenge." As the new season approached, there was speculation of what to expect from the twenty year old coach. Taking this job Cirillo hoped that his experience last year of getting to know the players and hearing the types of criticism the varsity players had of their coach would help him. Cirillo

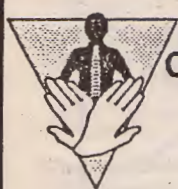
feels that there are both advantages and disadvantages surrounding the age difference between him and the players (between 2 and 4 years). "I can relate better to them, I know the tricks they try to pull, because I did the same, but at times I feel there is a lack of respect and many excuses from the player."

As a junior, Cirillo started sweeper on a team that appeared to be the last of a dynasty. The following year, Cirillo's senior year, the team was not the same, and for four years following has lacked in its tradition. There is no doubt that Cirillo would like to rebuild what he had last seen breaking down.

After an overtime loss, the first game of the season, Oyster River went on a tear, winning 9 straight games, and finding themselves in 2nd place of the NHIAA standings. People were learning fast that this 20 year old is no pushover. As the season progressed O.R. faced some tough teams, and finished the regular season with a record of 11-4. Oyster River's best season in five years.

They then went on to the playoffs to face Merrimack Valley. After regulation time had expired M.V. and O.R. were deadlocked at one, on to overtime where after two 10 minute overtimes and two five minute sudden death periods. Still 1-1, finally a shootout was held, ending in 2-1 victory to M.V.

As winter nears and the frost begins to cover the field, it begins to drain out the sounds of one of the most heart pounding games, heartbreaking defeats. Cirillo says he plans to be back next year, and continue the reconstruction.



**MERRITT
CHIROPRACTIC CENTER**
A Total Health Care Facility

Dr. Wesley A. Merritt
Doctor of Chiropractic

(603) 868-1120

13 Jenkins Court
Durham, NH 03824

Durham Fitness Center
Presents

FLEX APPEAL

Aerobic Wear
Vitamins and Supplements
Workout Accessories

located at: 13 Jenkins Court (behind Durham Fitness)
phone: 868-1543

Raleigh
Nishiki
Haro
Marin
Thule

SAVE

10% • Parts
&
Service
5% • B
I
C
Y
C
L
E
S



968-
8634

DURHAM BIKE PETTEE BROOK DURHAM NH 03824

EARLY RISERS RINK OR SWIM

swimmers and skaters share the same morning fate

HOCKEY

by Lesley Folensbee

It is four-thirty on a weekday morning. The rink is cold as eighteen varsity hockey players roll in to Snively Arena after a short night's rest. The team follows the orders of varsity coach Jeff Smith and JV coach Jay Jenkins.

With the loss of three seniors, this year's team only differs from last years with the departure of it's leading scorers. With thirteen returning players, two from Foster's 1992-1993 dream team, the Bobcats look forward to a great year. Sophomore Brian Tagliaferro commented, "I think that we have potential. Everybody is going to have to give a little more" The "giving a little more" attitude has many of this year's players playing in the off season on select teams.

Mike Merenda, team captain, is already one of the many highlights on the team this year, with his great accomplishments last year. Mike was the only defenseman to make Foster's Seacoast Snipers list for point leaders. As for this year's team Merenda commented, "It is going to take awhile to come together, but once we find the right mix we'll have a lot of potential."

This season's seniors are Tucker Katz, Ed Priestly, George Taggert, Mike Merenda (captain), Matt Blasik, and Scott McGarrel. They are planning to better last year's disappointing loss in the preliminary round of the play-offs.

The juniors lead the roster with the most participants and are likely to help take the team to the play-offs. Ryan Bellabona, Sean Dolliver, James Davenport, Andrew Gault, and Chris Williams were all on the team last year as well.

This year the sophomores on the team are: Brian Tagliaferro, Sean Moriarty, Drew Evans, and Rich Turcotte. Brian Swift, skater in the "fabulous freshman" line-up last year, is sitting out this season. Dwayne Doucette, a new comer to the team, commented, "The team has a lot of force and talent."

Chris Merenda and Seth Alie skate to represent the freshmen class. Chris Merenda commented about the team, "So far it has been fun and people

have been treating me well. It is really good that I'm playing with my brother (Mike)." All in all it should be an exciting season for our Bobcats.



James Davenport skates to the slot in hockey action vs. Spaulding.

SWIMMING

By Lesley Folensbee

While the rinks are cleaned and the hockey players skate around, the swimmers meet in Dover. They wear their swimsuits and swim caps and head onto the tiled floors of the Dover pool. Head Coach Mike Parottas' team is looking bright in blue and white bathing suits and looks forward with a winning attitude.

Losing five male swimmers last year, the team has only two veterans: Mike Lewis and Barry Croker. Both have been swimming since an early age. Sophomore Mike Lewis said, "We have a pretty young team with no seniors. Lack of guys is going to hold us back." Leshik Mazur, from Poland, has joined the boys roster and said that he is having fun getting to know the people on the swim team.

Thirteen girls make up the Oyster River swimming and diving team. Robyn Jerard, 1st year on the

team, said, "There is something about waking up at 4 am and smelling like chlorine all day that bonds people." Kelly DeForrest, Tammy McLean, Meg Frazer, and Karen Humphrey are the juniors on the team and all are returning swimmers. "[We have] a strong team determined to do well," commented DeForrest. DeForrest has been swimming for eight years. This is her third year on the high school team.

Sophomores Kelly Watson, Robyn Jerard, Fawn Veno, Jessica Tucker-Mohl, and Holly Brown are all experienced swimmers determined to swim well in this year's meets. Freshmen Kelly Cody and Stacy Creighton are both starting their first year of high school swimming. Kelly Cody, enjoying the swim team, said "I love being on the team because they all make me feel so welcome." Both freshmen look to the future and plan to stay on the team for the upcoming years.

Josh Jenkins--Ping Pong Champ!

by Neil Down

Recently a selected few sportsmen from O.R.H.S partook in the 8th (or 9th) annual Ping Pong tournament, sponsored by Student Council. This year's tournament was filled with many down to the wire matches, and tempers flared as the gladiator-like competitors locked horns in one of America's most popular leisure sports. Josh Jenkins emerged the victor, but not without the scars of many hard-won battles.

Mr. Landau, English apprentice to Mr. Tappan and only one in the tournament old enough to remember Jimmy Carter, was knocked out in the semi-finals. His two-fisted brandishing of the ping-pong paddle won throngs of admirers among the incredulous stares in the crowd. He lost a hard fought battle with Jenkins, and had a few word to say about it.

"Jenkins doctors the ping pong ball. I swear I saw him with sandpaper before the match. Besides, I didn't have my sneakers. And the sportsmanship banner was in my eyes," said Landau.

Landau was despondent about the loss but vowed that he and Mr. Tappan (who remembers Dwight Eisenhower) will dominate the volleyball courts in the Clam Slam later this year.

All excuses aside, it's obvious that the real reason behind Mr. Landau's loss was that Jenkins is a superior player, and also the consummate sportsman. He refused to engage in verbal jousting with Landau, saying only that "he [Landau] was my toughest match of the tournament".

The title match was between Jenkins and Geoff Snierson, both of whom had the pleasure of beating Landau in the tournament. Snierson, who had efficiently dispatched all previous competition, a heavy underdog, gave Jenkins all he could handle in the final, but finally fell in a valiant effort.

Spectators of all ages were wowed by the particular paddle prowess of the poised persistent pongers. Freshman Christy Tryder, who briefly witnessed the excitement of the tournament commented, "I was at the edge of my seat with anticipation."



Ping Pong tourney champion Josh Jenkins endured a gauntlet of fierce competition, finally emerging victorious with a win over Geoff Snierson in the final

O.R. Sports

Issue 2

Mouth of the River is a publication of the ORHS Journalism Class

December 16, 1993

HARD WORK PAYS OFF FOR FIELD HOCKEY

by Kerry O'Neill

This year's field hockey team finished their season with a 5-11 record. Although some may not think that that is a very impressive record compared to other sports such as soccer and girls volleyball, this is the best the Oyster River girls field hockey team has done in a long time.

For the first time in nine years the field hockey team has made it to the playoffs. Out of the sixteen teams that make it in, Oyster River went into it in the thirteenth position, and although they lost to Plymouth who was in the fourth position, juniors Kim Goodman and Carolyn Tryder both agreed that they played a great game, with most of their determination coming out in the second half. Senior Brandi Hoover commented, "I think that the team came together more this year than in past years. Since we were more united, it helped us to go as far

as we did go. People thought it was a joke before, but now that we made it as far as other teams, maybe people will give us more respect."

As to the players' feelings on their season, most players had similar opinions with the exception of one. For example, Kim Goodman stated, "I think just making it to the playoffs really excited the team. The upperclassmen were especially excited because in the past we've always had unhappy seasons. Once we were there it was a great feeling. I'm not sure if we lost because they were better than us or because our hearts weren't in it. Either way, the season this year was the best one I feel we've ever had." Team managers, Dawn Igoe and Jen Baker agreed that they worked really hard at being a team. Dawn commented that she saw "lots of improvements with working hard on the field." They not only really grasped the concept of the game and improved their skill, but also really came together as a team at the end." However, mixed in with all of the positive

up getting on each other's nerves.

Overall though, most seemed to feel that their season was a good one. Coach Baker said, "I think that this year's team really worked well together, and put in a lot of effort. Their hard work definitely paid off for them when they made it to the playoffs."

GREAT ATTITUDE MARKS CHEERLEADERS

by Maggie Jentes

This year's cheerleading squad is quoted as having "great chemistry" according to head coach Andrea Souza. The cheerleading season is in full force and they began their season cheerleading their first game, this past Tuesday night, against rival St. Thomas.

This year's squad is one of the four strongest teams in ORHS recent history. Senior tri-captain, Quincy Souza, feels that the team has "improved tremendously from last year, the way practice has been going has made it evident."

The squad consists of senior tri-captains Lori Andersen, Nicole Beck, Quincy Souza. Juniors Carolyn Tryder, Alisha Goodson and Danni Hodson. Sophomores Laurie McDowell, Desi Collins, Trish Welsh, Cheryl Buffington, freshmen Christy Tryder and Shelley Grimley. This year's squad also holds two alternates: Shawna Turner and Brooke Sparling. Maggie Jentes contributes to this year's squad by posing as the Oyster River Bobcat.

Head coach Mrs. Souza feels the team is going to be "awesome" this year and says that it would be great if fans would come to support the basketball team as well as the cheerleaders. The squad is looking forward to their state competitions which takes place towards the end of the season.



O.R.H.S. All-State soccer selections, Jeff Lang, Fawn Veno, Jaime Smith, Ben Hardy, and Aaron Tyler.

Bowles Turns Heads

by Maggie Jentes

On the bars at New England Sports Academy (N.E.S.A.) in Madbury, you will find 15 year old Shannon Bowles concentrating on every move she makes. She has no emotion on her face, as if she is concentrating so hard that nothing else crosses her mind. She goes through her routine and then the dismount. The second her feet hit the floor, the trance is gone and her face glows with a big smile.

Shannon is a freshman at Oyster River High School. She lives with her parents Paul and Susan Bowles and has been a gymnast since she was 3 years old. She stands 4' 11" and weighs under 100 pounds. Last year, she was featured on the channel 11 show "New Hampshire Crossroads". Over the summer, she also appeared at the regional meet and the national meet.

Shannon devotes most of her life to gymnastics. She practices from 3-9pm during the week and on weekends from 7-9 am.

Her coach described Shannon's gymnastics schedule as a "full time job", working 40 hours a week. Toni Retrosi has been with her for a year and a half. He knew at the beginning that Shannon was different, that she would actually go far with gymnastics. He commented that, "There are a lot of factors in what makes a girl have the potential to go far with gymnastics; physical potential is just one. Out of 8 kids that came like Shannon, she is the only one with the mental outlook-this combination is hard to find."

(Bowles cont. pg. 9)



Dan Kowal lays it up!

COACH PREDICTS STRONG OFFENSE

by Maggie Jentes

The Oyster River boys' varsity basketball team begins the 1993 season with enthusiastic and optimistic attitudes.

According to head coach Don Maynard this year's team is going to be "a faster paced and more offensive minded squad." Coach Maynard has made offensive changes this year and has also decided to play with a stronger full court defense. He added, "this year's team is more flexible than teams in the past, their overall size is average and with better shooters, the team will be able to take more offensive chances, such as more layups and outside shooting." With this in mind Coach Maynard feels that this year's team will be able to, "greatly improve the game winning average from last year." Coach Maynard hopes that the team will finish with a record of 14-4. This year's team consists of senior veterans Seth DeForest, Randy Henry, as well as a senior new comer, Adrian Brown. Juniors on the team this year are: Jamie Mercier, Dave Cirillo and Jeff Farrell. The sophomores are: Keith Courtemanche, Keith Friel, Brad Taylor, Corey Stacey and Dan Kowal, and lone freshman Greg Friel.

Coach Maynard feels this year's team will surprise a lot of opponents, and hopes that they will have a lot of fan support as they begin the 1993 season.